

Message Text

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SUBJECT: USNS HAYES CLEARANCE REQUEST, 12 JUNE - 1 JULY
1977

1. USNS HAYES IS A PUBLIC RESEARCH VESSEL OPERATED BY THE MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND FOR THE NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY. THE VESSEL IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE TERRITORIAL WATERS OF GREECE, ITALY, FRANCE, AND SPAIN, WHICH WILL BE FUNDED BY THE OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH. RESEARCH WILL INCLUDE BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL STUDIES OF THE WATER COLUMN AND BOTTOM SEDIMENTS AS WELL AS OBSERVATIONS ON BIOLUMINESCENCE.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH ARE SEVENFOLD:
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A. TO COLLECT BOTTOM SEDIMENTS OF MARINE, ESTUARINE AND RIVERINE ORIGIN FOR STUDIES OF THEIR TOXICITY AND MICROBIOLOGY.

B. TO UNDERTAKE MARINE BIOLUMINESCENCE OBSERVATIONS AND TO CULTURE THE PRINCIPAL LUMINOUS DINOFLAGELLATES TOGETHER

WITH THE ASSOCIATED MICROBIAL FLORA.

C. TO STUDY THE MICROBIOLOGY OF THE WATER COLUMN AT

SELECTED LOCATIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND ADJACENT SEAS.

D. TO STUDY MARINE FUNGI AND BACTERIA WHICH DEGRADE HYDROCARBONS OR SUBMERGED WOOD.

E. TO STUDY CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE PHYSIOLOGY OF MARINE FOULING ORGANISMS, PARTICULARLY THE NATURE OF THE ATTRACTANT AT SURFACES.

F. TO STUDY INTRINSIC FLUORESCENCE AND FLUORESCENCE INDUCED BY AMINE-CONTAINING OCEANIC MATERIALS AT VARIOUS DEPTHS OF THE OCEAN.

G. TO MEASURE THE CONCENTRATIONS OF CO, H₂, CH₄ AND OTHER LIGHT HYDROCARBONS IN THE WATER COLUMN.

H. TO MEASURE THE CHLOROPHYLL CONTENT OF THE SURFACE WATER LAYERS.

3. DATA TO BE COLLECTED ARE:

WATER TEMPERATURE PROFILES; SALINITY PROFILES; MEASURES OF DISSOLVED SALTS, GASES, NUTRIENTS AND POLLUTANTS; AND SAMPLES OF WATER, UNICELLULAR AND MACROSCOPIC ALGAE, UNCLASSIFIED

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BACTERIA, YEASTS, MARINE FUNGI, DRIFTWOOD, LUMINOUS ORGANISMS, MARINE FOULING ORGANISMS, MARINE BORERS AND BOTTOM SEDIMENTS.

4. EQUIPMENT INCLUDES:

WATER SAMPLING - ROSETTE WATER SAMPLER, NISKIN BOTTLES, SALINITY-TEMPERATURE-DEPTH RECORDER, SPECTROPHOTOMETER, GAS CHROMATOGRAPH, CENTRIFUGE, COMPOUND MICROSCOPE, DISSECTING MICROSCOPES, SPECTROFLUORIMETER, CONTACT-ANGLE GONIOMETER, AUTOCLAVE, INCUBATORS, MICROBIAL CULTURING EQUIPMENT, TRANSFER HOOD.

BIOLUMINESCENCE PLANKTON SAMPLING - 50 CM. PLANKTON NETS, DINOFLAGELLATE CULTURING EQUIPMENT, BATHYPHOTOMETER WITH COD-END SAMPLER, DARKROOM.

SEDIMENT SAMPLING - GRAB SAMPLER, PISTON CORING DEVICE, GRAVITY CORERS, CULTURING EQUIPMENT FOR BACTERIA AND

YEASTS.

TWO 15 MINUTE PLANKTON TOWS (SPEED 2 KNOTS) WILL BE MADE FOR BIOLUMINESCENT ORGANISMS EACH NIGHT. THE BATHYPHOTOMETER WILL BE LOWERED FOR 1 HOUR TO A DEPTH OF 50 METERS AT SELECTED LOCATIONS. SEDIMENT SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN BY GRAB SAMPLER OR A CORING DEVICE IN AREAS THOUGHT TO OFFER CONTRASTING STATES OF POLLUTION. DAILY HYDROGRAPHIC CASTS WILL BE TAKEN TO 300 METERS OR TO LESSER DEPTHS AS NECESSARY. WOODEN FLOTSAM WILL BE COLLECTED FOR STUDIES OF WOOD-DEGRADING FUNGI AND MARINE BORERS. FOULING ORGANISMS WILL BE COLLECTED ON SPECIAL SETTLEMENT PLATES LOWERED OVERBOARD WHILE THE SHIP IS PROCEEDING AT SLOW SPEEDS OR STOPPED.

5. THE DATA COLLECTED ON THIS CRUISE WILL ENABLE COMPARISONS TO BE MADE BETWEEN EARLIER STUDIES IN CONTRASTING UNCLASSIFIED

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GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS. THE SEDIMENT SAMPLING WILL YIELD BASELINE DATA ON WATER POLLUTION OF NAVAL CONCERN. STUDIES ON THE SUBSTANCES WHICH ATTRACT FOULING ORGANISMS TO SURFACES ARE OF OBVIOUS INTEREST TO THE NAVY. THE BIOLUMINESCENCE RESEARCH EXTENDS OUR GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF THIS PHENOMENON AND PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO CULTURE ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT SPECIES. INVESTIGATIONS OF HYDROCARBON AND WOOD-DEGRADING FUNGI AND BACTERIA ARE IMPORTANT TO THE NAVY'S INTERESTS IN OIL SPILLS, MAINTENANCE OF SUBMERGED TIMBERS, AND STORAGE OF HYDROCARBON FUELS. STUDIES ON MARINE BORERS ARE OF SIMILAR VALUE TO NAVAL INTERESTS IN THE MAINTENANCE OF PIERS, WHARVES AND RELATED STRUCTURES. STUDIES OF THE FLUORESCENCE OF SEAWATER RELATE TO THE FACT THAT THE FLUORESCING MATERIALS CAN BE ABSORBED ONTO SUBMERGED SURFACES WHERE THEY MAY ACT AS FOULING PRECURSORS.

6. PARTICIPATION CAN BE ARRANGED FOR FOREIGN SCIENTISTS WHOSE NATIONAL WATERS ARE TRANSITED BY THIS CRUISE, OR DATA AND RESULTS CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THEM. INTERESTED SCIENTISTS SHOULD CONTACT: DR. DONALD W. STRASBURG, CODE 8350, NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20375. IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO COORDINATE THE RESEARCH PLANS OF VISITING SCIENTISTS WITH THE CRUISE OBJECTIVES HEREIN DESCRIBED, AND IT IS THEREFORE ESSENTIAL THAT ANY INTERESTED SCIENTISTS CONTACT DR. STRASBURG AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

7. USNS HAYES (T-AGOR-16) HAS A CATAMARAN HULL AND IS 3672 GROSS TONS. SHIP IS 246 FT. LONG, BEAM 75 FT., AND DRAFT OF 22 FT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS NRLW AND SHIP MONI-

TORS 500 KHZ. CAPTAIN IS LEMAN COUCH WITH A CREW OF 45
AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 14. CHIEF SCIENTIST IS DR.
DONALD STRASBURG OF NRL.

8. A METEOROLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM WILL BE CONDUCTED
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PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM DESCRIBED ABOVE. THE RESEARCH WILL
TAKE PLACE IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN SEA IN INTERNA-
TIONAL WATERS AND NO REPEAT NO CLEARANCES WILL BE RE-
QUIRED.

9. A SHIP'S TRACK IS BEING POUCHED WHICH WILL IDENTIFY
SURVEY AREAS.

10. ACTION: EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE
FOR THE USNS HAYES TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
IN TERRITORIAL WATERS DURING 12 JUNE - 1 JULY 1977.
ADDITIONALLY, PORT CALL CLEARANCE IS REQUESTED FOR THE
FOLLOWING DATES:

8-12 JUNE --- PIRAEUS, GREECE
20-21 JUNE --- NAPLES, ITALY
23-25 JUNE --- PROPRIANO, CORSICA
1-3 JULY --- ROTA, SPAIN

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Message Attributes

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